

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 23rd July 1887.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Assam Vilasini"	Sibsagar	.....
2	"Assam News"	Ditto	450	
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
3	"Ahmmed"	Tangail, Mymensingh..	.....
4	"Kasipore Nibasi"	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
5	"Ave Maria"	Calcutta	.....
6	"Purva Darpan"	Chittagong	700	
7	"Silchar"	Silchar, Assam	.....	11th July 1897.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
8	"Arya Darpan"	Calcutta	102	15th ditto.
9	"Arya Pratibha"	Halishahar	.....
10	"Bangabasi"	Calcutta	20,000	16th ditto.
11	"Bharatbasi"	Ditto	3,000	9th ditto.
12	"Burdwan Sanjivani"	Burdwan	302	12th ditto.
13	"Charuvarti"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	11th ditto.
14	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca	450	17th ditto.
15	"Dhumaketu"	Chandernagore	.....	15th ditto.
16	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	825	15th ditto.
17	"Garib and Mahavidya"	Dacca	.....
18	"Grambasi"	Uluberia	.....	16th ditto.
19	"Hindu Kanjika"	Beaulah, Rajshahye...	200	13th ditto.
20	"Murshidabad Patrika"	Berhampore	508	15th ditto.
21	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi"	Ditto	.....
22	"Nava Medini"	Midnapore	.....
23	"Navavichakar Sadharani"	Calcutta	1,000	18th ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI—concluded.				
<i>Weekly—concluded.</i>				
24	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	450	9th July 1887.
25	"Prajā Bandhu"	Chandernagore	995	
26	"Pratikar"	Berhampore	600	15th ditto.
27	"Pūrva Bangabāsi"	Noakholly	.....
28	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore	205	14th ditto.
29	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	13th ditto.
30	"Samaya"	Ditto	2,350	
31	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	16th ditto.
32	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	800	8th ditto.
33	"Saraswat Patra"	Dacca	400	
34	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs.	1,000	18th ditto.
35	"Srimanta Saudagar"	Calcutta	.....	20th ditto.
36	"Sulabha Samāchār and Kusadaha"	Ditto	3,000	15th ditto.
37	"Surabhi and Patākā"	Ditto	700	
<i>Daily.</i>				
38	"Dainik and Samachār Chandrikā"	Calcutta	7,000	17th to 21st July 1887.
39	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto	200	13th to 21st ditto.
40	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	14th to 21st ditto.
41	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
42	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	.....	18th July 1887.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
43	"Kshatriya Pratikā"	Patna	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	"Aryāvarta"	Calcutta	.....
45	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore	.....
46	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	14th ditto.
47	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	500	18th ditto.
48	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto	4,500	
49	"Hindi Samāchār"	Bhagulpore	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
50	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Calcutta	250	15th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
51	"Aftal Alum Arrah"	Arrah	.....
52	"Gauhur"	Calcutta	196	
53	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar	150	
54	"Al Punch"	Bankipore	.....	11th and 18th July 1887.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
55	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	340	
<i>Daily.</i>				
56	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	212	15th & 16th & 18th to 21st July 1887.
ORIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
57	"Taraka and Subhavartā"	Cuttack	.....
58	"Pradip"	Ditto	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
59	"Utkal Dīpikā"	Cuttack	200	25th June 1887.
60	"Balasore Samvad Vāhika"	Balasore	205	23rd ditto.
61	"Sanskarak"	Cuttack	200	30th ditto.
62	"Navasamvād"	Ditto	.....	30th ditto.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Dhumketu*, of the 15th July, has learnt from the *Som Prakash* newspaper that a Russian in the guise of a pilgrim from Samarkand has found his way to Bombay. This man must be a Russian spy. Government should keep a sharp eye upon him. Russia does not cherish good intentions towards the English in India.

DHUMKETU,
July 15th, 1887.

2. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th July, referring to the appeal made by Mr. Gladstone to the people of India in a speech recently made by him on the Irish question, asking them to sympathise with the Irish in their attempt to secure home rule, says that down-trodden India deeply sympathises with the Irish people; for it is the miserable alone that can sympathise with real misery.

SANJIVANI,
July 16th, 1887.

3. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 20th July, says that it is not to be expected that the Sultan should be so foolish as to agree to a treaty between England and Egypt, which will practically destroy his suzerainty over the latter country. The English system of administration is not suited to a Mussulman country like Egypt. It is thought that both France and Russia will trouble England.

URDU GUIDE,
July 20th, 1887.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

4. The *Bharatbasi*, of the 9th July, says that most of the prostitutes removed from some of the houses in College Street have occupied some other houses in the same street. As it has been judged expedient to drive prostitutes from College Street altogether, all houses of ill-fame in that street should be cleared of their inmates. The law on the subject should be changed, and a separate quarter should be allotted to prostitutes. They should not be allowed to dwell in respectable quarters. Will Mr. Cotton try to introduce some provision to that effect in the new Municipal Bill? Mr. Cotton should also at once remove all prostitutes from College Street in the exercise of the powers vested in him as Commissioner of the Calcutta Police.

BHARATBASI,
July 9th, 1887.

5. A correspondent of the *Grambasi*, of the 16th July, praises Baboo Ramtanu Roy, Sub-Inspector of Police, Amta, in the Howrah district, for his honesty and devotion to duty. He is a model of honesty, a virtue so rare in the Police Department. It is hoped that other Police officers will benefit by his example, and that Government will reward his honesty with promotion and increase of pay.

GRAMVASI,
July 16th, 1887.

6. A correspondent of the *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 13th July, takes exception to the proceedings of the newly-appointed District Superintendent of Police, Dinagepore. It is alleged that he is sending away good and experienced men, and is appointing his own favourites from Julpigoree and Khulna in their place. He has recently dismissed Baboo Pares Nath Moitra, Sub-Inspector of Police, for delay in submitting a report, though satisfactory reasons were assigned for the delay. It is feared that he has dismissed Pares Baboo in order to provide for some of his favourites.

HINDU RANJIKA,
July 13th, 1887.

7. A correspondent of the *Pratikar*, of the 15th July, complains of the panic prevailing among the people about the town of Moorshedabad in consequence of the enticing away of children by some kidnappers. The

PRATIKAR,
July 15th, 1887.

other day a man belonging to the gang of kidnappers said that parties of kidnappers are in the habit of visiting the railway stations at Azimganj, Nalhati, and other places. Government should therefore order the police to proclaim by beat of drum that the people should be on the alert.

BANGABASI,
July 16th, 1887.

8. The *Bangabasi*, of the 16th July, says that thefts and daring dacoities have become of frequent occurrence in the mofussil. Dacoits have again begun to commit dacoity with notice previously given as of old. The year before last some murders were committed in Calcutta, and not one of the murderers was traced. Thefts are committed in every lane in the town. Some thefts recently took place in the quarter of the town called Mirzapore. Three or four shops in College Street were broken into by thieves. One of these shops, premises No. 63, has been twice broken into. The Police have not been able to trace this case of theft by house-breaking. What could be more disgraceful to the Police than this? If things go on in this way, the country will be reduced to a sad plight. The people are greatly alarmed. The authorities should take steps without delay to put an end to this state of things.

BANGABASI.

9. A correspondent of the same paper writing from Madhurkol, Moorshedabad, complains that the working of the local school is seriously interfered with in consequence of police officers taking their quarters in the school-house on the occasion of their visit to that place.

Police officers taking quarters in the Madhurkol school.

BANGABASI.

10. Another correspondent of the same paper, Baboo Kedarnath Banerjea, some of whose ornaments were stolen from a box in a train in the Eastern Bengal State Railway while travelling from Jadavpore to Ranaghat, says that he informed the Ranaghat Railway Police of the matter, but the Police refused to hear his complaint on the ground that the theft was not committed within their jurisdiction. He was therefore obliged to go to the Bongong Police; but the Bongong Police had to be prevailed upon by earnest entreaties to take his complaint. Such things occur from time to time on the Eastern Bengal State Railway. The police attached to that railway does not easily consent to receive complaints. Where then is the necessity for such a Railway Police?

Thefts in railways and the Railway Police.

(c)—Working of the Courts.

SANSODHINI,
July 8th, 1887.

11. The *Sansodhini*, of the 8th July, complains of the irregular proceedings of the Joint-Magistrate and of the District Magistrate of Chittagong in a case which lately occurred there. It is alleged that five men of the Munsif's Court were punished by Mr. Douglas, the Joint-Magistrate, with both fine and imprisonment for wrongfully confining a woman named Misrijan and for locking up Madhu Baboo, the Inspector of Police, while in the execution of his duty. The sentence was passed on the day of the Car festival, five days after the hearing of the case, and towards the close of that day; so the persons convicted had not sufficient time to take a copy of the judgment and to appeal to the District Judge, and they had therefore to go to jail. As soon as the sentence was passed, a copy of the judgment was taken, and an appeal was filed before the Judge. The Judge granted the appeal, and ordered that the appellants should be released on bail. The District Judge sent this order to Mr. Manson, the Magistrate of the district, by his own chaprasi for execution towards nightfall. It remained for the Magistrate only to write his signature, and the five men would not have had to remain in jail that day. But the Magistrate had not even time

Magisterial vagaries in Chittagong.

to sign his name, and so all the five men were sent to jail in spite of the order for their release. On the following day he signed the order for release at 1 P. M., though he was requested to do this in the morning. Was it fair on the part of Mr. Manson to defer the signing of the order for release on the ground of pressure of work?

12. The *Bhāratbāst*, of the 9th July, says that Mr. Lusson is a head-strong young man. Last year he sentenced some men to be flogged in a case similar to the present fishing case, and he was rebuked by the Judges of the High Court for doing so. One year has not yet elapsed from that time, and he has flogged 43 men for the same offence. As he has wilfully and whimsically committed such a grave offence, he should at once be removed from the public service. He should be dismissed for this act of high-handedness.

BHARATBAST,
July 9th, 1887.

13. A correspondent of the *Chāru Vārtā*, of the 11th July, says that the Deputy Magistrate of Tangail abuses not only his own amlah, but also the mukhtears of his court. The court is not held regularly at Tangail, and people coming from great distances to lodge complaints in his court have to go away after waiting for a long time. The Deputy Magistrate does not inform the parties or their mukhtears when and where he intends to hold his court when on tour. Police oppression has increased under this Deputy Magistrate.

CHARUVARTA,
July 11th, 1887.

14. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 16th July, agrees with the *Statesman* in thinking that, if Mr. Waller has really refused to admit the appeal of the convicted persons in the Meherpore Fishing Case, he should be compelled to resign the service.

URDU GUIDE,
July 16th, 1887.

15. The *Dacca Prakāsh*, of the 17th July, says that the decision recently passed by the High Court in the Meherpore Fishing Case, by destroying all private right in the fish found in natural reservoirs of water, threatens to destroy the fishery rights of both Government and zemindars. There ought to be a protest by the zemindars against this decision of the High Court, otherwise their right to fish in their jalkar mehals, and to derive income therefrom, conferred on them by Government at the time of the Permanent Settlement, will be gone. The right in question is being enjoyed by them from time immemorial, and should not be allowed to be destroyed.

DACCA PRAKASH,
July 17th, 1887.

16. The *Navavibhākar Sādhāranī*, of the 18th July, doubts whether the warning to all Magisterial officers conveyed in the High Court's judgment in the Meherpore Fishing Case will produce any effect.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI
July 18th, 1887.

The Meherpore Fishing Case and the right of fishery in beels.

Have copies of the judgment been sent to other Magistrates? As regards Mr. Lusson, mere reproof will have no effect upon him. He requires to be punished, and Government will bring deep disgrace upon itself if it does not punish him. Indulgence in such a case will embolden many other Magistrates to commit acts of oppression; and in that case the faith of natives in the English law courts will be destroyed. British sovereignty in India rests upon the foundation of justice, and if that foundation is weakened, the consequences will be disastrous: but that foundation is going to be weakened. Police and Magisterial oppression is gradually increasing. If Government does not put an end to that oppression now, it will have to repent in future. It is not a matter for rejoicing, as some people think, that the Viceroy has written to the Lieutenant-Governor about the fishing case. It is a matter of regret that it should be necessary for the Viceroy to direct the Lieutenant-Governor to remedy such gross injustice.

Mr. Luson has committed gross injustice by sentencing old and young people to be whipped without taking evidence. Magisterial vagaries are increasing, and seem to have become epidemic. Rigorous measures are therefore required to be taken to check this disease. Everybody is waiting to see what Sir Steuart Bayley does in this matter.

To turn to the High Court's exposition of the law relating to fishing rights. It has been an immemorial custom in this country to farm out fishing rights. It is true that there are *beels*, the right of fishery in which has never been leased, and in which everybody catches fish, and it would be wrong to deprive the public of their fishing rights in such *beels*. But it is not reasonable that a man who has taken a lease of the right of fishing in a *beel* should have no exclusive right to the fish in that *beel*, simply because he has not thrown fish into it. It is customary to grant leases of the right of cutting grass upon large churs. Those who take such leases do not themselves grow the grass they cut away, and yet their right to the grass is never disputed. It will be well if zemindars are prevented from granting leases of such pasture lands, *beels*, forests, &c., as have never yet been leased. But it will be unjust to deprive people of their *jalkar* and *bankar* right in *beels* and forests which have been leased by them for a long time past.

(c)—Jails.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 17th, 1887.

17. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 17th July, says that the number of deaths among the Burmese prisoners in the English jails is three times as large as that among other prisoners.

Cruel treatment of Burmese prisoners in the jails.

Will this information reach the ears of the Governor-General of India? Is not this disclosure damaging to the good name of the British administration in this country? It is difficult to conceive how Englishmen, who are the rulers of a vast empire, can be so mean as to treat fallen enemies so cruelly.

(d)—Education.

BHARATBASI,
July 9th, 1887.

18. The *Bharatbasi*, of the 9th July, says that mofussil boys have shamefully beaten Calcutta boys in the last Entrance Examination. If this means deterioration of the Calcutta boys, its cause will probably be found to lie in the following circumstances:—

The deterioration of the Calcutta boys.

- (1). Calcutta boys have become more fussy than before, and take part in social and political agitation to the detriment of their studies.
- (2). Calcutta boys have become more voluptuous than mofussil boys.
- (3). The desire to succeed in the examinations without hard study has become stronger in Calcutta boys.
- (4). The increase in the number of rival schools has had a demoralising effect upon Calcutta boys. Bad boys, and boys who commit offences or neglect their studies, are not punished or even reproofed for fear lest they should go over to a rival school.
- (5). Large admissions are made in the Calcutta schools for the sake of income and without due regard to the strength and efficiency of the teaching staff. There are therefore in a class more boys than can be properly taught by a single teacher.

- (6). The majority of the teachers in the Calcutta schools do not get salaries exceeding Rs. 25 to Rs. 40 a month. This is very insufficient income for them, and so they supplement it by incomes derived from private engagements as tutors. Their mornings and evenings are devoted to those extra engagements, and thus they cannot prepare themselves as all good teachers should for their work of instruction in the schools.
- (7). Parental indulgence is now the order of the day among Bengalis, and a bad boy has always his father's support in getting himself admitted into a higher class at school than what he is fit for. It is also matrimonially advantageous to Hindu parents to have their boys in the Entrance class. And as owners of schools have not the moral courage to refuse wrong or improper admissions, the higher classes have begun to be filled with bad boys.
- (8). The number of schools having increased, and good boys being distributed among them, the number of good boys in a particular school is now smaller than what it used to be before; and the few good boys in a school are treated indulgently and are deprived of the stimulating influence of competition. A Calcutta teacher says that the good boys in a school consider themselves so many 'lords.'
- (9). Strict rules are not observed in sending candidates to the Entrance examination. The managers of schools are at the mercy of the boys, and they have therefore to send up whoever says that he must be allowed to go.

There may be truth in all this, and there may be more causes requiring investigation. A Commission of Enquiry ought to be appointed consisting of of teachers from every school.

19. The *Paridarshak*, of the 9th July, complains of irregularities in the award of Junior Scholarships in Assam.

PARIDARSHAK,
July 9th, 1887.

Junior Scholarships in Assam.

It is a matter of regret that none of the candidates from the Murarichand High School, and the two schools at Habiganj, have got their allotted scholarships.

PARIDARSHAK.

20. A correspondent of the same paper says that Karimgunj has not been able to maintain its position in the last Primary examination. This result may possibly be due to teaching the slokas of

The result of the Primary Scholarship Examination in Karimgunj, Sylhet.

Chanakya. However that may be, the Sub-Inspector of Schools is requested to discontinue the teaching of those slokas. No good can be derived from their study. On the contrary, there may be much waste of the children's time and mental power.

One Jogindra Charan Das, of the Karimgunj School, stood fourth in the Minor Scholarship examination. The writer is sorry that no scholarship has been awarded to him, although boys of his age, and coming after him in order of merit, have been given scholarships. It is hoped that the Inspector of Schools, Assam, will do justice to the poor boy.

CHARU VARTA
July 11th, 1887.

21. The *Charu Varta*, of the 11th July, referring to the rumour that the Director of Public Instruction will himself select text-books henceforward for the schools in Eastern Bengal, says that,

The selection of text-books for Eastern Bengal.

instead of adopting this course, which will be a grave reflection upon the Educational authorities in Dacca, the Director would do well to take such steps as will prevent them in future from committing irregularities in this connection.

CHARU VARTA,
July 11th 1878.

22. A correspondent of the same paper hopes that the Deputy Inspector of Mymensingh will earn the gratitude of the people of Jamalpore by raising the local school to the status of a middle English school. There is no middle English school in that sub-division.

A middle English School in Jamalpore, Mymensingh.

CHARU VARTA.

23. Another correspondent of the same paper says that the passed students of Normal schools receive as much education as those who pass the F. A. examination, and in some subjects they receive more education than the latter. It is a matter of regret, however, that the salaries they receive do not exceed Rs. 15 a month, and they have to remain satisfied with their small salaries all their lives. But a respectable family cannot be maintained with less than Rs. 20 a month; so the case is a very hard one for these pundits. The foundation of all the education given in this country is laid in the middle vernacular and middle English schools, and as most of the subjects taught in these schools are taught in Bengali, it is clear that the laying of the foundation of all public education in Bengal is entirely in the hands of these pundits. But as the higher Educational authorities do not care to encourage this class of pundits, it is quite probable that their zeal in the important work they do may diminish, and the whole cause of education may thereby suffer serious injury. It is therefore desirable to divide these pundits into three classes according to merit, and to give them salaries of Rs. 25, Rs. 30 and Rs. 40 a month respectively. They may also be allowed to pass the Lower Pleader-ship examination, and if that is considered objectionable, they should at least be appointed Sub-Inspectors of Schools.

The passed students of Normal schools.

SAHACHAR,
July 13th, 1887.

24. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th July, makes the following remarks on the educational scheme put forth by Messrs. Eliot and Pedler. None of the proposals will bear examination. In the first place, there is no necessity for making such alterations as have been proposed. The changes, instead of discouraging, will have the effect of increasing cram, and for the following reason. Under the present system the holidays enjoyed by schools and colleges amount to about four months; but under the proposed scheme they will amount to eight months. So under the proposed scheme only four months will be available in a year for the actual work of instruction. Cram must therefore increase. Again, the establishment of many rival universities is not desirable. The proposal to allow only one year's time before the F. A. and B. A. examinations may be harmless so far as the best boys are concerned; but it will be very mischievous as regards inferior boys. Besides, a degree obtained by one year's study will be looked down upon, and so the Presidency College will fall in the estimation of the public. The rejection of 3rd class Entrance boys and of those who will fail to graduate in one year after passing the F. A. examination will have the effect of reducing the numerical strength of the Presidency College to such an extent as to imperil its existence. Increased schooling fees will increase the peril. The proposal to abolish the Chittagong College is not a wise one. For, to the people of Chittagong, it is all the same whether they come to Dacca or to Calcutta. The abolition of their college will therefore subject them to serious inconvenience.

The educational scheme of Messrs. Eliot and Pedler.

PRATIKAR,
July 15th, 1887.

25. The *Pratikar*, of the 15th July, approves of the appointments recently made by the Managing Board of the Berhampore College. The Maharani deserves thanks for reducing the school and college fees. The numerical strength of the College is increasing, and will probably increase still more in future.

The Berhampore College.

26. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th July, says that the proposal to establish technical schools has had to be laid aside for want of money, but Government has money enough to be able to spend five lakhs of rupees in repairing the Fort at Herat. Thus it seems that Government pleads poverty only when it is asked to spend money in the education of the people.

SANJIVANI,
July 16th, 1887.

27. In discussing the causes of the defeat sustained by the Calcutta schools at the last Entrance examination, the same paper says that the defeat could not be owing to any deterioration of the teaching staff in these schools, for, as a matter of fact, there has been no such deterioration. The defeat could not also be owing to the increase which has taken place within recent years in the number of pupils in those schools; for all possible mischief from this source is prevented by dividing unwieldy classes into convenient sections. As regards the mofussil schools, which have beaten the Calcutta schools, no improvement in their teaching staff or method of instruction was found to have been effected last year.

SANJIVANI.

It is thus clear that nothing connected with the internal administration of the Calcutta schools will account for their remarkable defeat at the last Entrance examination. It seems the defeat was owing to two causes wholly unconnected with the schools themselves. The first is the creation of two sets of examiners—one for the mofussil and another for Calcutta. The second is the system of holding the University examination in the hot season. The first cause operates against Calcutta pupils in this way. The Calcutta papers are now examined by the examiners from the mofussil, and as these men have to deal with a much smaller number of students than the Calcutta examiners, they are apt to judge boys by a severer standard than the Calcutta men, who, from their wider acquaintance with school-boys, are disposed to be more liberal in their estimate of a pupil's capacity. As to the second cause, before the change in the time for holding the examinations was made, the Calcutta schools used to open about the middle of January and close for the summer vacation on the 15th May. After re-opening on the 15th July they used to close again for the Puja vacation at the beginning of October. As the test examination was held after the Puja vacation, the boys had four months' time before and four months' time after the vacation to prepare themselves for it. But under the new arrangement schools open about the 23rd or 24th June, and do not settle down to work for the few remaining days of that month in view of new admissions. The Puja vacation comes after three months. The schools re-open in November and remain open till December. As the names of the candidates who intend to appear at the Entrance examination are under the present arrangement required to be sent to the Registrar before the 15th day of February, it is necessary to hold the test examination at the end of January. And as that examination cannot be finished in less than 10 or 15 days, and as students must be given two or three weeks' time to prepare themselves for it, the work of teaching the Entrance class has to be stopped before the commencement of the month of January. Thus under the present University arrangements regarding the examinations, students instead of receiving instruction in the schools for eight months, do so only for five months in the year.

In the mofussil the number of admissions being small, the schools can commence work as soon as the session begins. Nor are those schools under any necessity of stopping work so long before the text examination, nor does the selection of candidates, according to the results of that examination, take so much time there; so that in the mofussil boys read in the schools all through the month of January. Thus mofussil boys get more time for preparation than Calcutta boys. To these causes must be added a third, namely, the careless manner in which the work of examination is

now-a-days conducted. To give one illustration. It is reported that last year a head examiner at the Entrance Examination re-examined no less than 5,000 papers. So far as this third cause is concerned, it is desirable that examiners should do their work with particular care, and that the head examiner should see that the papers examined by other examiners have been properly marked. The Registrar should also send papers back for re-examination to the head examiner whenever such re-examination seems to him necessary.

SANJIVANI,
July 16th 1887.

28. The same paper, referring to the examination for medical degrees says that the number of failures at the first L. M. S. examination this year is even greater than that at the first M. B. examination. And this, notwithstanding that the University held the separate examinations for the degrees of M. B. and L. M. S. with a view to making the L. M. S. examination easier than the M. B. examination. That the object of the University has not been attained is because examiners were not properly selected; the large number of failures being due to some of the Bengali examiners, who set very difficult questions on Surgery. The Calcutta University is doing immense mischief by selecting a bad set of examiners every year. A permanent Board of examiners should be appointed.

BANGABASI,
July 16th, 1887.

29. The *Bangabasi*, of the 16th July, referring to the proposal to substitute Chemistry for Physical Geography in the Entrance Examination, says that it agrees with Dr. Rajendralal Mitra in thinking that, while the study of Chemistry will not really add to the knowledge of the Entrance candidates, it will do them serious injury by putting too heavy a strain upon their mind.

BANGABASI.

30. According to the same paper the Calcutta University cannot be said to properly value the Bengali language so long as it does not recognise it as a second language in its F. A. and B. A. examinations. And it is because Bengali is not valued by the University that many Bengali students cease to study it after reading only the primers in that language in the lower classes of schools. Will not the Bengali members of the Senate try their best to get Bengali introduced in the higher examinations of the Calcutta University after the example of the Madrassis, who have introduced Maharatti as a second language in the F. A. and B. A. examinations of their own Madras University.

BANGABASI.

31. A correspondent of the same paper writing from Khaskhol, in Manickchak, Maldah, says that the work of the local pathsala cannot be satisfactorily performed by one teacher. The inhabitants of the place, who are mostly cultivators, cannot afford to employ an additional teacher. The school cannot therefore be improved without an increase of the Government grant.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
July 18th, 1887.

32. The *Sar Sudhanidhi*, of the 18th July, says that different subjects should be taught in the different Indian Universities. If the standard of education in this country is lowered, the people will be dissatisfied with Government.

SOM PRAKASH,
July 18th, 1887.

33. The *Som Prakash*, of the 18th July, says that the reason why most people in this country now-a-days suffer from weak eyes, dyspepsia, head diseases, and various other distempers, is the severe mental strain to which they are subjected at school and college. The system of education should therefore be so ordered as to enable students to devote a few hours every day to physical exercise. The number of text-books for the University examinations should be reduced. It is

also desirable that instruction in some of the useful arts and manufactures, such as agriculture, should be imparted in the schools and colleges in this country.

34. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 20th July, thinks with Dr. Rajendra Lala Mitra that Chemistry should not form one of the subjects of study for the Entrance examination. Many schools in Calcutta, and almost all schools in the mofussil, will be unable to provide the necessary apparatus for teaching chemistry.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
July 20th, 1887.

Chemistry in the Entrance examination.

35. The *Dainik and Sámachār Chandrikā*, of the 21st July, says that it cannot at all approve of the way in which female education is now being imparted in this country. There being constitutional differences between the sexes, it is clear that what is good education for one of them may not necessarily be good education for the other. In fact, the same scheme of education will not do for both. The large sums which are annually spent on female education throughout this country are so much money wasted. It is not good to send girls to school. The girls brought up at school generally imbihe luxurious habits of life, treat their domestic superiors with disrespect, hate their proper domestic occupations; in short, lose every amiable trait in their character, and take great delight in imitating English habits and customs. If female education of this kind goes on some time, Rukmas will spring up in every Hindu family.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 21st, 1887.

Female education in Bengal.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal administration.

36. The *Murshidabad Patrikā*, of the 15th July, says that buffaloes should not be allowed to enter within the limits of the municipality of Murshidabad, and that a place should be set apart for these animals beyond the limits of the municipality.

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA,
July 15th, 1887.

The Murshidabad Municipality.

37. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 16th July, asks the Calcutta Municipality to look to the following points:—

SAMVAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
July 16th, 1887.

The Calcutta Municipality.

1. Preventing the overloading of animals.
2. Preventing overloaded animals from being cruelly treated.
3. Keeping the street, neat and clean, and removing therefrom all sorts of putrid matter.
4. Flushing the urinals every day.
5. Opening the lids of the drain-pits during or before or after a shower of rain.

38. A correspondent of the *Grambāsi*, of the 16th July, complains of the inactivity of the members of the Amta Local Board. At the time of their election the members were very busy in securing votes in their favour, but now they are all fast asleep. They should ask the District Board to entrust them with some useful work.

GRAMVASI,
July 16th, 1887.

The inactivity of the Amta Local Board.

39. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 18th July, says that the expenses of clearing the chur formed in the Buriganga opposite to the town of Dacca, and of maintaining the gauge at that place, ought to be borne by the Commissioners of the Dacca Municipality. As the receipts from the ferry-boats in Dacca are taken by the municipality, it, and not the District Board, ought to bear the expenditure required for the purpose in question.

DACCA GAZETTE,
July 18th, 1887.

The Dacca Municipality and the District Board.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

PARIDARSHAK,
July 9th, 1887.

40. A correspondent of the *Paridarshak*, of the 9th July, says that the unnecessary rigour of the Assam Regulations about the registration of names

Land registration in Karimgunj.

has been increased in the case of Karimgunj. It is not the practice in Karimgunj to pay or receive land revenue until it is demanded; but applications for registration of names are not granted unless revenue is deposited therewith. On account of the distress prevailing in that place, the time for paying revenue for 1293B.S. was extended to the ensuing month of Assin. But applications for registration of names are not being granted where the revenue for 1293B.S., and that for 1294B.S., which will fall due in September next, are not deposited therewith. The heirs of deceased proprietors are, however, liable to fine if their names are not registered within six months. The Chief Commissioner has recently ruled that copies of orders passed on applications for registration of names must be taken at the applicant's cost. But as the local officers, unlike the Deputy Commissioner, do not take the trouble of mentioning all necessary facts in their orders, the people have to take copies of both the order and the application, and thus they are put to unnecessary expense.

BANGABASI,
July 16th, 1887.

41. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 16th July, says that, if the rumour be correct that Baboo Nuffer Chunder Pal Chowdhry, and enhancement of rent. Chunder Pal Chowdhry will obtain the right to enhance rent in consideration of his having excavated three tanks for the benefit of his tenants, it will be very bad news indeed.

(g)—Railways and Communications including canals and irrigation.

CHRUVERTA,
July 11th, 1887.

42. A correspondent of the *Cháru Vártá*, of the 11th July, writing from Betagari, says that the roads in that village, which are always very bad, have become impassable in this rainy season. Though the zemindars of the village collect large sums of money as road cess, there is no good road to the Balipara railway station, which is the reason why that station cannot secure much traffic in goods. Now that Betagari has been placed under the Local Board, it is hoped that its members, Dinanath Baboo and Mohendra Baboo, will remove these inconveniences of the people.

Roads at Betagari.

SULAVA SAMACHAR
KUSHADHA.
July 15th, 1887.

43. The *Sulabha Samáchar* and *Kusadaha*, of the 15th July, asks the authorities to take steps to make the road leading to Gaipur from the Gobardanga station fit for use.

The road from the Gobardanga station to Gaipur.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 18th, 1887.

44. The *Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 18th July, says that, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee, Government has effected a reduction of Rs. 30,000 in the expenditure of the Eastern Bengal Railway. This reduction has been secured at the cost of some petty officers whose posts have been abolished. The higher officers in the service have escaped retrenchment; and Major Bogie has been praised for this reduction. Major Bogie has, however, proposed to increase his own pay, and to appoint 12 additional highly-paid English officers under him. Verily, this is reduction in the truest sense of that word!

Reduction of expenditure in the Eastern Bengal Railway.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.
July 19th, 1887.

45. The *Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 19th July, says that the East Indian Railway authorities should grant the application of the people of the villages of Risra, Mahes, Morpukur, and other places for the establishment of a station at Risra, which is situated midway between Konnagar and Srirampore. At any rate a station may be opened experimentally, and it is expected that the experiment will be a success.

A Railway Station at Risra.

(h)—General.

46. The *Silchar*, of the 11th July, is astonished that the Government is not checking the sale of moveable property in Cachar by tehsil peons. The people have at last got excited, and they have severely beaten one of the tehsil peons. Suits for assault and illegal dispossession are also increasing. Government should without delay attend to this matter.

SILCHAR,
July 11th, 1887.

47. The *Charu Varta*, of the 11th July, says that native executive officers are becoming more and more despotic, and it has become almost impossible to put an end to Civilian oppression. In the mofussil the Deputy Magistrates are also becoming despotic. Those Deputy Magistrates who serve under the direct supervision of Magistrates in Sudder stations are fairly well behaved. But the Deputy Magistrates in charge of sub-divisions freely commit oppression. The mofussil people are generally divided into two parties—one siding with the Deputy Magistrate, and the other taking the part of the oppressed. The oppressions committed by Deputy Magistrates, besides arousing this party feeling, compel people to spend much money with a view of putting an end to them. The people are thus in a state of chronic uneasiness, and as they have, moreover, to spend much money in order to protect themselves against official oppression, they have neither the inclination nor the means to improve their condition in any respect. Thus official oppression has become a great obstacle in the way of the progress of the country.

CHARU VARTA,
July 11th, 1887.

48. A correspondent of the same paper, of the 11th July, recommends that, in consideration of the large income yielded by the Betagari post-office, the authorities should convert it into a sub post-office.

CHARU VARTA.

49. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 12th July, asks Government to transfer the villages of Paligram, Palpara, Ganpur, Barulia, Unetatarpur, Ramnagor, Mallikpore, Devagram, Kesubpore, Navagram, Mazhikhara and Fatepur, which are situated at a distance of 22 to 24 miles from Kutwa, from the jurisdiction of the Kutwa munsifi to that of Burdwan town, which is within one hour's journey by rail from those villages. The Guskara station on the Loop line is only three miles distant from these places. These villages are also connected with Burdwan by good roads, with serais at intervals. On the other hand, there are no roads leading from these villages to Kutwa, and people have to walk to Kutwa through paddy-fields during the rainy season, and have also to cross many rivulets, beels, &c., on their way; and no boats are kept in those rivulets and beels. No serais are also to be found in that direction and the route is infested by robbers. It is to be hoped that the Magistrate and the Commissioner of Burdwan will take the matter into their careful consideration and grant the favour herein asked for.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI
July 12th, 1887.

50. Referring to the exploit performed by Subedar Mahomed Alum in a recent engagement with the dacoits in Burma, the same paper says that, notwithstanding such splendid feats of arms so often displayed by native soldiers, Government does not reward them with Generalships. But if Government does not reward heroism in its native officers, service in the army will become unpopular in the eyes of natives.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

51. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th July, referring to the Burdwan adoption, makes the following observations. The objections raised by the Dowager Maharani against the adoption of Baboo Ban Bihari's son, being of a very serious nature, should not have been left to the decision of the Board

SAHACHAR
July 13th, 1887.

of Revenue. If Sir Steuart Bayley, without taking the consent of the Dowager Maharani, allows the young Maharani to take Ban Bihari's son in adoption, the Raj estates are sure to be involved in ruinous litigation. Sir Steuart should also ascertain whether the young Maharani's desire to adopt Baboo Ban Bihari's son was the result of external pressure or not. For, as far as the writer is aware, the young Maharani was at first rather opposed to, than in favour of, the proposed adoption. Whether or not the young Maharani, if left to herself, would have liked to adopt Baboo Ban Bihari's son should be carefully decided.

SAMVAD PRABHAKA,
July, 13th 1887.

52. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 13th July, referring to the words in the Queen's Jubilee speech, expressive of Her Majesty's desire to rule her Indian

The Queen's Proclamation.

subjects in accordance with her Proclamation of 1858, says that every Indian heartily thanks the Queen for saying these words. Though the Proclamation has not yet been strictly followed, it may be hoped, now that it has been in a manner reasserted by the Queen herself, that its assurances will be given effect to and maintained in violate by Lord Dufferin.

HINDU RANJIKA,
July 13th, 1887.

53. The *Hindu Ranjikā*, of the 13th July, approves of the Government Resolution regarding the promotion of Sub-Deputy Collectors to Deputy Magistrateships.

Sub-Deputy Collectors.

The service in which there is no prospect of promotion loses its efficiency.

HINDU RANJIKA.

54. The *Chalisapara* correspondent of the same paper says that the reduction of the commission on the sale of postage stamps to three pie in the rupee has become a source of inconvenience to the

Postage stamp-vendors in the mo-fussil.

public. The vendors have closed their business on account of this reduction of commission, and people have to go during office hours to some post office, situated at a great distance, in order to buy stamps. This inconvenience may be removed by making over a number of stamps of all descriptions to the postal peon for sale when he goes out on his round of delivery. It is hoped that the authorities will attend to this matter.

HINDU RANJIKA.

55. Another correspondent of the same paper complains of the high-handed proceedings of the Income-tax Collector of Dinagepore. It is alleged that he rejects the assessments made by the Assessors after

The Income-tax Collector, Dinagepore.

careful local investigation, and levies the tax in two or three instalments, increasing the amount of the tax every time at his own sweet will and pleasure. The Collector is levying both the income-tax and the amount which the people paid as license-tax before the imposition of the income-tax. Thus it is clear that he is levying two taxes on the same business. But if any representation is made to him on this subject, he pays no attention to it, and if applications are made he rejects them. The people are at a loss how to get themselves out of this difficulty. It is hoped that the Government will transfer the present Income-tax Collector to some other place.

MURSHIDABAD
PRATIKAR,
July 15th, 1887.

56. A correspondent of the *Murshidabad Patrikā*, of the 15th July, says that the cases of kidnapping of children by cooly recruiters have created quite a panic

Kidnapping in Murshidabad.

in and around the town of Murshidabad, and it is desirable that the local Magistrate should allay these fears by proclaiming the real facts connected with those cases and by taking precautions against their repetition. It is believed that the release of one Sarada Chatterjee, a secret agent of the tea-planters, is still doing much mischief.

SULABHA SAMACHAR
& KUSHADHA,
July 15th, 1887.

57. The *Sulabha Samāchār* and *Kusadaha*, of the 15th July, asks the Postal authorities to establish a post-office at the village of Mangalganj. There is a post-office in a neighbouring village, which,

A Post-office at the village of Mangalganj.

however, cannot regularly distribute letters and packets in Mangalgaon where this paper is now published.

58. The *Dhumketu*, of the 15th July, says that it is the English officials who directly rule this country. With the Government people have little or no

DHUMKETU,
July 15th, 1887.

English officers in this country. direct connection. These officials are therefore responsible for the good government of the country. This being the case, it is necessary, in the interests of good government, that these intermediate officers should be men of tried honesty, ability, experience, qualities, which are sadly wanting in the officers who now rule the country; and it is for this reason that the good name of the British Government in India is being tarnished. The fixing of the age-limit of the candidates for the Civil Service Examination at 19, by causing the influx of very young and inexperienced Englishmen into this country, is making things worse in this respect. Reports are coming from every district of grave failures of justice, of rich men becoming impoverished, of respectable people being insulted, of chaste women being ravished; and the ghostly atrocities of a Nero and a Sirajuddaula are being re-enacted in every town and zillah. The indifference of Government in the matter of punishing official delinquency is making its officers more absolute and lawless than ever. There is now no distinction between a Government official and a fiend (*pisach*). Nobody knows what else is reserved for the hopeless people of this country!

59. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th July, referring to the new loan of two crores of rupees announced by the Government of India, says that Government cannot

SANJIVANI,
July 16th, 1887.

The new Government loan.

with safety go on borrowing at this rate. Unless, therefore, it reduces the salary of every Government officer, from the highest to the lowest, insolvency is sure to overtake it.

This practice of raising loans also stands in the way of the development of the resources of the country. As these loans absorb much of the capital of the country, natives cannot engage in trade or other independent occupations for want of funds. If so much of their money were not thus locked up, people would perforce find a good investment for it. So by withdrawing so much money from the hands of the people, Government is not only impoverishing the country, but is also depriving millions of people of their bread. Government is thus doing mischief in two ways. In the first place, in finding employment (however bad) for their capital, it is encouraging the naturally indolent habits of the people; and in the second place, by making them pay interest, and thereby increasing their poverty, it is laying the axe at the root of all material development of the country. To be thus revenged on a whole people, and to make it impossible for them to advance their interests in future, is a thing of which only a foreign nation possessed of a beastly character is capable.

60. The *Bangabasi*, of the 16th July, referring to the Government of India's refusal to sanction the purchase in India by a Madras District Board of the iron materials required for constructing a

BANGABASI,
July 16th, 1887.

The Government of India and the purchase of articles in this country.

bridge, says that this is the way in which Government gives effect to its own rules!

61. The same paper says that a ruler should look with an equal eye upon all classes of his subjects, and should make no distinction between them on the score of

BANGABASI.

English administration in India.

colour, creed or social position. The ancient Hindu kings governed on this principle, and their subjects were therefore happy. The Mussulman rulers disregarded this principle, and they lost their power. It cannot be denied that this principle is not being disregarded by the English Government also.

In Dacca, innocent school-boys were punished, while the officials who were guilty of oppression escaped unpunished. In Kisnagore the guilty officials were simply reprimanded. In the Rungpore deer case the guilty officials received some punishment. Will not Mr. Luson be punished? The English administration is becoming unpopular, simply because guilty officials are not punished by the English rulers of the country. Good government, however, is advantageous both to the rulers and to the ruled, while bad government is disadvantageous to both of them. Mussulmans lost their dominion in India in consequence of bad government. If their bad government had not alienated from them the sympathies of the people, it would have been impossible for the English to conquer India. The Mussulman rulers of India offended their Hindu subjects, and their Mussulman subjects were unable to prevent their fall. With these facts and warnings before them, Anglo-Indians should curb their pride and interest themselves in the welfare of India. Having lost America by bad government, England is behaving cautiously towards her colonies. But the lesson received by her in America has not influenced her administration of this country. The liberal policy which she has adopted elsewhere has not been yet adopted by her in India. But it is certain that she will soon find it impossible to do without adopting a liberal policy in India too.

BANGABASI,
July 18th, 1887.

62. A correspondent of the same paper writing from Barijhati in Chanditolla, Hooghly, says that outstills established there have become a great nuisance

to the people of that place. Drunkards make disorderly rows in public places, and sometimes dance naked and sing obscene songs. It has become difficult for women to go out to fetch water or scour utensils. But greed of money blind Government to all this.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 17th, 1887.

63. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 17th July, referring to the Public Service Commission, observes:—
“Anglo-Indians form the majority among the members of the Commission; and all these

Anglo-Indians may not be as liberal-minded as Sir Charles Aitchison and Sir Charles Turner. Again, it is not certain that even Sir Charles Aitchison and Sir Charles Turner will be able to stick to their liberal creed unto the end. The next thing to be afraid about is whether a favourable report by the Commission will meet with the support of the Governor-General. Even if the Governor-General himself supports the recommendations of the Commission, it is not certain that the Members of his Council will also do so. Lastly, the fate of the Commission's report in the hands of the Secretary of State and his Council is involved in great uncertainty. It is likely that if the Commission goes so far as to advise a larger employment of natives in the Public Service, the Anglo-Indian Members of the Council of the Secretary of State will make short work of their report, and of any favourable minute which the Viceroy may record upon it, leaving poor Indians as miserable as ever.

DACCA GAZETTE,
July 18th, 1887.

64. A correspondent of the *Dacca Gazette*, of the 18th July, complains of the insolent behaviour of the Sub-Registrar of Sylhet who often browbeats and

abuses gentlemen who come to his office for the transaction of business. As the work of registration is gradually increasing, such officers should not be allowed to remain in charge of it. The authorities should look to the matter.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 20th, 1887.

65. A correspondent of the *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 20th July, relates a case of diabolical murder committed under the influence of liquor in the

village of Bonisole in Midnapore, as an illustration of the evil which the outstill system is doing in this country. The murderers are a woman and

her paramour, and the victim is the husband of the woman. No man in a sober state could hack his victim in the way the murderer in this case has done.

66. A correspondent of the *Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 21st July, writes to say that he sent two pass-books to the Sub-post office of Sahebgunj under section 28 of the Post Office Savings Bank Rules. After about a month-and-a-half the books were returned, but without the interest account, and no satisfactory explanation was forthcoming as to why the interest account had not been inserted therein. As it was necessary to make a fresh deposit of Rs. 2, the books were sent to the Bank along with the new deposit money in order that the interest account might be inserted therein before admitting the new depositor, under section 28 of the Savings Bank Rules, which provides that, in case any accounts are not entered in the pass-book, the omission should be supplied on the occasion of admitting a fresh deposit. This time, again, the books as well as the money were returned, and so the deposit could not be made. Do not high officials, like the Comptroller-General, look to these matters? The postal rules, relating to these Savings Banks are good, and it is necessary that they should be carried into effect. Otherwise these Savings Banks will be discredited in the eyes of the public.

DHAINIK & SAMACHA
CANDRIKA,
July 21st, 1887.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

67. The *Bhárat Mitra*, of the 14th July, referring to the rumour that native princes have not been duly honoured in England, says that it is extremely painful to Indians that the native princes who have sacrificed their caste in order to go to England with the view of doing homage to the Queen have been insulted in that country.

BHARAT MITRA,
June 14th, 1887.

68. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th July, says that it is the opinion that Sir Lepel Griffin induced the Maharaja Holkar to go to England, and it is he who is responsible for the insult which the Maharaja has received at the hands of British officials in that country. But a day of reckoning for this act of indiscretion will arrive. Before taking Holkar to England, Sir Lepel ought to have consulted the Secretary of State on the subject, and ascertained from Holkar himself what honours he expected to receive in that country. For Indian princes, unlike mercantile Englishmen, are very particular about honour and etiquette. How could Sir Lepel, acquainted as he is with the honours and customs of these Indian princes, make such a blunder as this? And how could Lord Dufferin who, from his long residence in Mussulman Courts, is presumed to know what importance is attached in the East to etiquette, permit Sir Lepel to take Holkar to England? It is probable that the Holkar will not forget in all his life the insult he has received in England.

SANJIVANI,
July 16th, 1887.

69. The *Som Prakash*, of the 18th July, says that the state of things in Nepal is getting serious day by day. According to treaty conditions, the British Government cannot interfere in the internal condition of that State; but it is desirable that Government should nevertheless interfere in a friendly spirit in order to get order and settled Government restored in that country.

SOM PRAKASH
July 18th, 1887

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

70. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 11th July, says that the state of the crops in Mymensingh is not good. Untimely rain has destroyed the *aus* crop, and only a portion of the *aman* crop has been saved. The

CHARU VARTA,
July 11th, 1887.

BANGABASI,
July 16th, 1887.

state of the jute crop is also bad. The *teel* crop has been submerged and cut away in an unripe condition.

71. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 16th July, writing from Tahirpore, says that excessive rainfall has submerged the paddy plants in Jassai, Thengamara, Jonka and other villages in Rajshahye. The water is gradually rising. The people will be ruined this year.

SILCHAR,
July 11th, 1887.

72. The *Silohar*, of the 11th July, is sorry that Government has as yet taken no steps to relieve the distressed people of Cachar. Repeated cattle-plagues have caused their distress. The new Deputy Commissioner has been asked either to lend or to give away money. If Government has any doubts about the distress, let it institute enquiries. The following list contains the names and addresses of those who are in extreme distress, and who will die of starvation if not immediately relieved :—

PERGUNNAH SUNAPUR.

Village of Niyair.

Names of persons.	Number of persons in the family.	Names of persons.	Number of persons in the family.
Mansurmia ...	6	Etim Ali ...	3
Anjabali, Achhrabali ...	7	Inuchh ...	4

Village Gungapur.

Cachhim Mia ...	10	Ganai Mai ...	3
Jangi Mai ...	5	Atabi (a widow) ...	3
Chhadu Mai ...	6		

Gosaiapur.

Chhubdar ...	3	Musab ...	5
Anju ...	6	Habiz ...	4
Chhapai ...	3	Chhachia ...	4

Village Badripar.

Kokil Chang ...	6	Lilai Patuni (a female) ...	1
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PERGUNNAH UDHARBAND.

Village Durganagar.

Name.	Number.	Name.	Number.
Raja Mia ...	5	Muchhu ...	4
Jivan (a khansama) ...	3	Madu Miya ...	6
Inuchh ...	7	Jayaphur ...	3
Dilbar ...	4	Paku ...	2

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BHARATBASI,
July 9th, 1887.

73. The *Bhāratbāsi*, of the 9th July, says that Anglo-Indian newspapers have been supplied with copies of the Report of the Salaries Commission. What objection is there to supplying the report to the native papers too?

BHARATBASI.

74. The same paper, referring to Mr. Peacock's departure on leave, remarks that no one would have been sorry if Mr. Peacock had left the country for good.

Mr. F. B. Peacock.

BHARATBASI.

75. The same paper approves of the creation of the Duchess of Connaught's Life-boat Fund. Is it true, however, as is commonly stated, that the Fund is intended only for Europeans? What is the good of making race distinctions in such a matter as this?

The Duchess of Connaught's Life-boat Fund

76. The same paper says that some of the ryots of Sreemutty Sudhamoyee Dabee, widow of the late Baboo Jogendra Nath Roy, Zemindar of Chackdighee, have sent a petition to the Lieutenant-Governor preferring certain charges against her. The writer has seen a copy of the memorial, and he says that, although he is always a friend of the oppressed, he cannot support this memorial. If the ryots have really any grievances, the Lieutenant-Governor, instead of himself interfering in the matter, should refer them to the courts of law.

BHARATBASI,
July 9th, 1887.

77. The *Silchar*, of the 11th July, referring to the proposed alteration in the Hindu Marriage Law, says that it is not desirable that Government should interfere in the matter; for Hindus would resent such interference even if hundreds of cases like that of Rukma Bai were to crop up everywhere. Every sensible man knows what mischief has been done in this country by English civilisation, and the extent of the country's demoralisation will be fearful if the law of divorce is also introduced into it.

SILCHAR,
July 11th, 1887.

78. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 12th July, thinks that there should be a strict inquiry into the facts of the case given below on the strength of a rumour:—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
July 12th, 1887.

The Joint-Magistrate of Raniganj was driving over the bridge on the river Barakar. A cartman, who was driving his cart over the bridge at the same time, having incurred the displeasure of the Magistrate, was whipped by the latter. The man used insolent language to the Magistrate, who thereupon began to belabour him severely. The cartman, unable to receive more beating, ran away, and in doing so jumped into the river. Some say that he began to hang by the railing of the bridge, and as the *Sahib* continued beating him in that position he lost hold of the railing and fell into the river. Anyhow, this much is certain, that the man lost his life by drowning. A rumour of such a nature against so high placed an official as a Joint-Magistrate should not be allowed to remain uncontradicted. The public are anxious to know what the Joint-Magistrate has to say on his side.

79. Referring to the marriage circular issued by the Government of India, the *Sulabha Samachar and Kushadaha*, of the 15th July, says that, if Government is really anxious to know all about Hindu marriage and the desirability of introducing changes in it, it ought to consult the opinions not of the Provincial Governments, but of the learned and experienced representatives of the people in different parts of the country. It is most desirable that Government should know what Hindus think about these proposed changes. It will not be out of place here to mention what the late Baboo Keshub Chandra Sen thought on this subject. According to Keshub Chandra—

SULABHA SAMACHAR
& KUSHADAH,
July 15th, 1887.

1. The married couple must not be able to forsake one another, nor should they be allowed to marry again.
2. The marriage bond cannot be dissolved even if one of the parties be proved guilty of faithlessness.
3. If the friends of the parties advise separation in such cases, or if Courts of Justice allow such separation, they do so in clear disregard of the law of God, and only with a view to promote the temporal happiness of the parties.
4. So long as the husband and the wife live, attempts should be made to effect a reconciliation between them. For it is not desirable to weaken the sacred relationship created by marriage.
5. People should therefore bear in mind that those who are once married are married for all time. Their separation is impossible in the world ruled by God.

SAMVAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
July 15th, 1887.

80. *The Samvād Purnāchandrodaya*, of the 15th July, praises Mr. Cotton, the present Commissioner of Police, for his kind and gentlemanly treatment of all sections of the community. The writer prays that Mr. Cotton may live long and continue to do good to the people of this country. Glory to the Commissioner Sahib ! Glory to his kindness ! Glory to his successful management of business !

SANJIVANI,
July 16th, 1887.

81. *The Sanjivani*, of the 16th July, hopes that the Lieutenant-Governor, when out on his inspection tour, will be received everywhere with demonstrations of respect. People will show him unfeigned loyalty and reverence.

BANGABASI,
July 16th, 1887.

82. *The Bangabāsi*, of the 16th July, says that Government has made it a rule to dismiss such of its servants as become insolvent; but this rule has not been observed in the case of Mr. Hodge, a clerk in the Sanitary Commissioner's Office. Mr. Hodge has sought the protection of the Insolvency Court five or six times. It is also stated that Mr. Hodge, who has passed his fifty-fifth year, is going to apply for extension of service.

DACCA PRAKASH,
July 17th, 1887.

83. *The Dacca Prakash*, of the 17th July, protesting against the proposed alteration in the Hindu marriage law, observes as follows :—

Rukma Bai and the proposed alteration in the marriage law of Hindus.

The so-called reformers say that the existing law is opposed to modern taste; but the number of these moderns is as yet extremely limited in India. How many Rukmas have up to this time turned out in this country? Again, to soften the rigour of a punishment attached to an offence which is seldom committed, and to do so for the sake of a single individual, will be to encourage the very crime upon which the punishment is intended to serve as a check. Punishment is meant to deter men from committing crime, and if punishment is therefore allowed to be trifled with, people will be simply tempted to commit crime.

If imprisonment is abolished, the measure will have the effect of increasing the number of women of bad character. If bad women are allowed to have it all their own way by simply paying fines, their paramours will find money to pay off their fines, and they will thus be encouraged to leave their husbands' company.

Most Hindu women have no property of their own. The few who have any property get it from their husbands. So if a wife is unwilling to go to her husband, the utmost that her husband can do in the way of punishing her is to take away from her the property which he himself gave her; but if she have no property, she will escape punishment altogether. So that, if the proposed alteration is made, it is the husband alone who will suffer great wrong.

To part with a wife in consideration of money is about the same thing as selling her for money. Now, this sale of wives may be a very reputable custom in civilised Europe, but it is abhorrent to Hindu religion and Hindu morality.

The punishment of imprisonment has been often found to work beneficially. Wives who left their husbands' company have been known to have been cured of their aversion to their husbands by imprisonment in jail.

The introduction of the law of divorce into this country will necessitate an alteration in the law relating to the punishment of adultery. Adulterers will in future avoid all graver penalties by paying fines. Cases of seduction will therefore become more numerous than they are at present.

It will be a mistake to introduce English customs into this country simply because they are English customs. If the Bombay Government is so anxious to place in the possession of the people of this country the

blessings of English civilisation, why does it not exert itself to confer upon them the political rights and privileges which are enjoyed by Englishmen in England? Why is it so anxious to obtain a cheap notoriety?

Next comes the question of divorce for faithlessness on the part of husbands.

If Hindu women are allowed to come to Court for cancelment of marriages, Hindu society will surely go to ruin.

Even among Mahomedans, the right of divorce is possessed only by the husband, and if that right is conferred on Muhammadan women too, Muhammadan society will be thrown into a violent revolution. At the time of their marriage, Muhammadan wives get some property from their husbands, which constitutes their dower, and which they can dispose of as they please. But if a Muhammadan wife is allowed to sue her husband for cancelment of marriage, and if the marriage is cancelled, the husband will be deprived, not only of his wife, but of his wife's property too. and that property will in all probability go to his wife's paramour. Will Muhammadans tolerate such a revolution in their society? Government should therefore give up the idea of interfering in the marriage law of Hindus.

As to the custom of divorce being prevalent in some Hindu castes, it is sufficient to observe that it prevails only among such low castes as Haris, Bagdis, carpenters, &c., which hardly belong to Hindu society at all. To say that the custom prevails in any respectable community of Hindus is to grossly misrepresent facts; Government is earnestly entreated to drop the proposal.

84. The *Navaviḥakār Sādhārānī*, of the 18th July, says that the zenana system, the selection of a husband or a wife for a girl or a boy by their

The restitution of conjugal rights.

parents in the capacity of guardians, the permanent subjection of Hindu women, the marriage of girls at an early age, and the bestowal of them in marriage, the indissoluble nature of the marriage tie, the making of a provision for even the faithless wife by the husband, the punishment of both adulterers and adultresses, the recital of mantras by which the girl promises to remain for ever in the husband's family, the imperfect nature of the wife's right of inheritance, and the strange law about Stridhan are all peculiarities connected with Hindu marriage and the position of Hindu women which differentiate that marriage and that position in a very remarkable manner from English marriage and the position of English women in English society. It is therefore clear that mere abolition of imprisonment in the case of a wife's refusal to go to her husband will not assimilate the two marriage systems, and the position of the Hindu woman to that of the English woman. Hindus, whether they be civilized or uncivilized, have manners and customs quite the opposite of those of Englishmen. The abolition of one Hindu custom out of many will therefore simply introduce incongruity among Hindu marriage customs. English legislators and Judges have created quite a revolution in Hindu society by abolishing the punishment of adultresses, and by ruling that unchaste wives should not lose their inheritance. They are therefore requested not to introduce another change of an equally revolutionary character. Many people say that social revolutions bring about political revolutions, and does the English Government attach no weight to that view? Government says that it is repugnant to modern civilised ideas to pass decrees entitling a husband to the restitution of conjugal rights. But is it not barbarism to allow a man to even institute a suit for the restitution of conjugal rights? If Rukma Bai had been even living in Bhikaji's house, Bhikaji could have, under certain circumstances, instituted a suit against her for restitution of conjugal rights. Could anything be more shameful than that? What

NAVAVIḬAKĀR
SĀDHĀRĀNĪ,
July 18th, 1887.

hateful work for the law Courts to do ! And because natives have not adopted these English practises they are forsooth uncivilised ! According to the Hindu law the husband is the perpetual protector of the wife. If a Hindu wife therefore refuses to go to her husband, the English courts in this country can do nothing better than to make her over to her husband who is her natural protector. But it is also repugnant to modern ideas that the wife should remain under the perpetual protection of the husband. It is therefore anomalous to maintain this system of perpetual protection, and at the same time to dread its inevitable consequences. In short, it would be better if all talk about civilised ideas were forsworn in connection with suits about restitution of conjugal rights. It is true, as Government says, that divorce obtains among some low caste people who call themselves Hindus ; and Government would be really doing an important duty of a ruler if it should make laws fixing and regulating the uncertain and unsettled marriage customs of those peoples. But Government is unfortunately so utterly wanting in the knowledge and experience necessary for framing a really organic legislation of this kind that it is really desirable that it should not even make an attempt in that direction.

SOM PRAKASH,
July 18th, 1887.

85. The *Som Prakash*, of the 18th July, says that the wisdom of the Lieutenant-Governor's proposal to introduce competitive examinations into the Bengal Secretariat Offices has been made out by the recent appointment by Mr. Phillips, Under-Secretary, of an outsider to a post worth Rs. 200 per month, in supersession of the claims of the department in which the post fell vacant. The man who has got the post is one with whom Mr. Phillips, when an Assistant Magistrate, read Bengali. It is desirable that no such supersession should be allowed to be made in future.

SOM PRAKASH.

86. The same paper takes exception to the transfer to the sudder station of the 24-Pergunnahs of Baboo Purna Chandra Basak, Officiating Deputy Magistrate. Baboo Purna Chunder Basak, Officiating Deputy Magistrate. and asks whether the transfer in question is not owing to the influence of the brother of the "Baboo" who is a clerk in the Secretariat. It is strange that such a young and inexperienced man should have been thought fit to hold office in so important a place. This man will hardly be able to do his work satisfactorily, and will thus give Anglo-Indians a handle to cry down native fitness for the public service.

SOM PRAKASH.

87. The same paper says that the object of the Marine Court of Enquiry now sitting upon the question of the loss of the *Sir John Lawrence* seems to be to exculpate the Port Officer from his share of the guilt in this matter. According to Mr. Neustein, the former Chief Officer of the *Sir John Lawrence*, it is the Port Officers that are responsible for the loss of that ship. The fact is that the *Sir John Lawrence* was unseaworthy, and the Port Officer should not have allowed her to go to sea. The Legal Remembrancer's confession of ignorance of the facts of the case is simply unpardonable. A man of his position should not have come forward with that excuse. The fact is that the Court has up to this time done nothing towards giving a satisfactory account of the loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*. It behoves Sir Stuart Bayley, as a kindhearted and impartial man, to take care that the enquiry is so conducted as to lead to the discovery of the persons who are really guilty in this very serious and lamentable affair of the loss of the vessel.

SOM PRAKASH,

88. The same paper, referring to the marriage question, says that in this country climatic conditions require that girls should be married at the early age of 11

or 12, before they have commenced to menstruate, the period of menstruation being fixed in this country at the age of 12. According to modern Indian reformers, the age of menstruation varies from the 14th to the 18th year; but judged by the light of facts, the latter opinion seems to be erroneous. Besides, in marrying their daughters early, Hindus have another object in view, namely, complete unification of two souls.

Such a unification can only be effected when the parties united in wedlock are young in years. As men and women grow in years, they become more and more stiff and self-willed, so that advanced years are a great obstacle in the way of a real unification of two souls. It is early marriage which makes Hindu girls such faithful and devoted wives. The fact that there is no courtship in Hindu marriage is used as an argument against that marriage, as if a few months' acquaintance between two persons could bring out the essential traits in their character, especially when both of them, as is usual in this class of cases, take good care to hide their respective faults and failings. The physical deterioration of Hindus has been attributed to their custom of early marriage. It should be noted, however, that early marriage notwithstanding, Bengalis, one or two generations back, were a healthy and physically strong people. It is no business of the Government to interfere with the marriage system of Hindus, for such interference will involve an interference with their religion.

89. The *Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 18th July, is astonished to learn that Government has undertaken to pay passage-money to Mr. Collingridge, who has been sent to the Island of Java by the Behar Indigo Planters' Association for the purpose of studying the cultivation of indigo in that place. Now, as it is the indigo planters who are interested in Mr. Collingridge's mission, all his expenses should have been paid by them.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 18th, 1887.

Government and Mr. Collingridge's mission to Java.

90. Referring to the Lieutenant-Governor's speech at the Durbar in the Bengal Secretariat Buildings on Friday last, the same paper says that His Honour acquitted himself most creditably on that occasion. His utterances were marked neither by the self-adulation of Sir Rivers Thompson, nor by his boastful references to his own countrymen. Nor did he, like the late Lieutenant-Governor, stop in the course of his speech to level insidious remarks against the conquered people of this country. It appears from Sir Steuart Bayley's public acts and utterances that he is solicitous to please his subjects.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,

The last Durbar at the Bengal Secretariat.

91. The *Samvád Prabhákar*, of the 19th July, says that the Jubilee Committee now sitting in Calcutta has, at the instance of Government, hitherto confined itself to raising funds for the Imperial Institute in England. But most useful things remain undone in this country. People no longer hear anything about the technical schools lately so much talked of. The Jubilee Committee would have been better occupied if instead of concerning itself about the Imperial Institute, it had raised money with a view of setting up a lasting memorial of the Jubilee in Calcutta. But, now that the Imperial Institute has been provided with money, the Committee should at once set about establishing a Jubilee memorial in Calcutta. The fact that no such memorial is still established in Calcutta argues great neglect of duty on the part of the members of the Jubilee Committee.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
July 19th, 1887.

The Jubilee Committee and the Imperial Institute in England.

URIYA PAPERS.

92. Referring to the late disaster in the Bay of Bengal, the *Samvád Báhiká*, of the 23rd June, approves of the suggestion of Government to pass a law making it penal on the part of Captains of steam vessels carrying passengers

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
June 23rd, 1887.

Law for passenger vessels.

SAMBAD BAHIKA,
June 23rd, 1887.

to leave the port for the open sea in the face of clear signs of a storm or cyclone. Its contemporary of the *Utkal Dipiká* holds the same opinion.

93. After making certain adverse remarks on the borrowing habits of Mr. Beames, a Member of the Board of Revenue, the same paper goes on to make

The Government and Mr. Beames.

the following observations :—

“It would be a very impolitic act on the part of Government to connive at the irregularities of an officer in Mr. Beames' position. Such a policy on the part of Government may produce in the public mind the impression that it is partial to its *English* officers.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
June 25th, 1887

94. Referring to the recent discussions in the House of Commons regarding the minor Raja of Mayurbhanj, the *Utkal Dipika*, of the 25th June, makes the following observations :—

The Mayurbhanj State in Parliament.

“We have been surprised by the answers given by the Under-Secretary. In a criminal case which lately came before the High Court from Mayurbhanj a Full Bench of that Court decided that the Orissa Gurjats could not be looked upon as British territory. His Excellency the Viceroy has also concurred in this decision of the High Court. With the permission of the Government of India, the Sessions cases in the Gurjats are now tried within their own limits. It is a matter of deep regret that, in the face of all these facts and arguments, the Under-Secretary of State for India has declared those States to be British territory.” The *Narasamvād* holds a similar opinion.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

95. The same paper again recurs to the subject of the abolition of country-made *patti* (dried leaves of hemp plant), and forcibly argues that the people of

The trade in patti.

Orissa have been accustomed to the use of the same, and it would be a cruel and unjust act on the part of Government to deprive them of a material which is useful alike as an article of luxury and as a medicine.

NAVASAMVAD,
June 30th, 1887.

96. The *Navasamvād*, of the 30th June, is opposed to the residence of prostitutes near the Civil Court in Cuttack town. Their location in the very heart of the

Public women in Cuttack.

town is a public nuisance, and is demoralising in its consequences. It therefore advises the Cuttack Police as also the Cuttack Municipality to follow the example of the Deputy Commissioner of the Calcutta Police, and assign them a separate quarter in the town.

SANSKARAKA,
June 30th, 1887.

97. The newspapers of Orissa are unanimous in their approval of Mr. Tute's proposal to erect a pilgrim hospital at Chandbally. The *Sanskāraka*, of the 30th June, makes the following remarks and

Proposed Pilgrim Hospital in Chandbally.

suggestions :—

“The proposal of Mr. Tute resolves itself into two principal parts, namely, (1) the erection of a pilgrim hospital at Chandbally, and (2) the erection of a “Jagannath pilgrim Fund.” Mr. Tute is of opinion that he will be able to erect Pilgrim sheds at Chandbally with the assistance of such donors as may be found in the Balasore district, and if he is allowed to remain a few years in charge of that district, we are confident that he will secure his desired object. Besides, the working of the Coast Canal will increase the importance of Chandbally, which will attract fresh streams of pilgrims from the Balasore, Midnapore, and other adjoining districts. If to this is added the consideration that periodical cyclones or sea-waves contribute largely to the distress of the floating population of that port, the necessity of establishing a pilgrim hospital will be universally admitted.

“The creation of a general “Pilgrim Fund” is the more important part of Mr. Tute's proposal. Such a fund if properly created, and ably

administered, will afford relief not only to pilgrims passing through Chandbally, but to those that use other great pilgrim-routes in Orissa. But the labours of a single Officiating Collector, if not backed by the common sense and charity of the Hindu community, will be of little avail. We therefore propose the establishment of a General Committee, consisting of members drawn from each Hindu district in India, with head-quarters at Pooree, to whom the administration of the General Fund may be entrusted. The General Committee may make over annual allotments to each district through which pilgrim-route lies, and the District Board of such district may administer its own allotment. Any surplus balance of the General Fund may be utilised in repairing those temples in Pooree, Bhubaneswar, Jajpore or other places that are not likely to be able to withstand the rigour of time and climate for a longer period. The success of the scheme will depend on the way in which the active members of the General Committee will work. It is useless to expect that administrators of Mr. Tute's position will be able to devote much time and attention to an object which it is the prime duty of every Hindu to attend to."

The paper then goes on to suggest that the long line of *Dharma-shallas* along the pilgrim route between Midnapore and Pooree may be repaired and utilised as rest-houses for way-worn and helpless pilgrims.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 23rd July 1887.

